

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 INFORMATION FROM
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CONFIDENTIAL
 REPORT

50X1-HUM

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR
 SUBJECT Economic - Forestry
 HOW PUBLISHED Monthly periodical
 WHERE PUBLISHED Moscow
 DATE PUBLISHED Feb 1950 - Jun 1951
 LANGUAGE Russian

DATE OF INFORMATION 1950-1951

DATE DIST. 6 Nov 1951

NO. OF PAGES 14

SUPPLEMENT TO
 REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
 OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 80
 U. S. C., 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION
 OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PRO-
 HIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Lesnoye Khozyaystvo.

INFORMATION ON SOME USSR FORESTS
FROM "LESNOYE KHOZYAYSTVO"

[See the following pages]

CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	☒	NAVY	☒	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION									
ARMY	☒	AIR	☒	FBI											

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

INFORMATION ON SOME USSR FORESTS
FROM "LESNOYE KHOZYAYSTVO"

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

The forests of the USSR are not evenly distributed throughout the country. Seventy percent are located east of the Urals, where only one-fifth of the USSR population lives; only thirty percent are concentrated in the European USSR, where four fifths of the population lives. (1)

Valuable Forest Massifs of the USSR

The government has charged the Ministry of Forestry USSR with taking measures for preserving all valuable forest massifs in the steppe and forest-steppe zones of the European USSR. A strict felling discipline has been established in the designated forests as well as in forests along the divides of rivers, so that these forests will be preserved and improved.

Forests in 163 forestry managements with a total area of 4,386,000 hectares have been designated as valuable forests. The distribution of the valuable forest area according to types of land is shown in the following table.

Union Republics	Valuable Forest Massif Area (thousands of hectares)								
	Forested					Unforested			Total Grand Total
	Natural Forests	Planted Forests	Total	Burnt Over Areas	Cutting Areas Not Re- planted	Glades	Roads and Clearings		
RSSR	1,620	101	1,721	73	60	212	24	369	2,090
Ukrainian SSR	256	94	350	4	28	51	6	89	439
Kazakh SSR	345	2	347	72	31	349	10	462	809
Kirgiz SSR	77	-	77	-	73	40	-	113	190
Totals	2,298	197	2,495	149	192	652	40	1,033	3,528

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

The following types of forests were included in the category of valuable forests:

1. Forest massifs in the steppe and forest-steppe zones of the USSR, which have protective significance (belt pine forests in West Siberia, Buzuluk Pine Forest).
2. Artificially created forests in steppes where climatic, soil, and water conditions are extremely unfavorable.
3. Forests which at this time serve as examples of steppe afforestation, shelter-belt planting, and sand afforestation (Veliko-Anadol' Forestry Management in the Ukraine, Lenin and Manych forestry managements in Rostov Oblast, and others).
4. Natural "island" forests in the steppe and forest-steppe zones, which have historical significance as evidence of former extensive forests (Chernyy Forest in the Ukraine, Shipov Forest in Voronezh Oblast, pine forests along the Severnyy Donets River, and others).
5. Forests in which over a period of years forestry experiments have been carried on and which, therefore, have scientific and practical significance (Trostyanets Forestry Management in the Levoberezhnaya Forest Steppe in the Ukraine, Saval'sk Forest and Tellermanovskaya Wood in Voronezh Oblast, Raifa and Kazan' forests in Tatar ASSR).
6. Natural forest massifs with stands of rare or valuable species of trees which serve as sources for propagation material of these species (Caucasian, Far East, Central Asian species -- boxtree (*Buxus sempervirens*), yew (*Taxus*), cork oak (*Quercus suber*), Amur cork tree (*Phellodendron amurense*), walnut (*Juglans*), persimmon (*Diospyros*), and others).

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

7. Plantings of exotic trees serving as bases for seed collection and acclimatization study.

8. Forest massifs which are outstandingly productive and serve as bases for seed collection.

9. Virgin forests containing very old trees, the preservation of which is important from a scientific point of view (300-year-old oak forests along the Bolshaya and Malaya Ugol'ka rivers in the Transcarpathian Ukraine, Alekseyevka Wood near Moscow, and others).

10. Natural forests containing so many nut and fruit trees and berry bushes that harvesting nuts, fruits, and berries from them may have commercial significance (forests with walnut (*Juglans regia*), pistachio (*Pistacia vera*), apple (*Malus*), pear (*Pyrus communis*), plum (*Prunus divaricata*), and other trees in Central Asia and the Caucasus).

A partial list of forests designated as valuable forests follows together with a brief description of each forest.

Name, Area, and Main SpeciesBrief Description

Cherkassy Pine Forest;
43,800 hectares; pine.

A pine massif at the edge of the steppe along the right bank of the Dnepr. It is the southernmost occurrence of ordinary pine.

Plyutovsk Forest;
500 hectares; pine.

An artificially created massif in Kiev Oblast in the forest-steppe zone.

Chernyy (Black) Forest;
31,500 hectares; oak.

An oak forest in Kirovograd Oblast.

- 4 -

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

7
50X1-HUMCONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

Pyatikhatka Forest; 1,900 hectares; oak.	An artificial forest in the southern steppes of Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. Contains trees up to 60 years old.
Melitopol' Forestry Management; 3,700 hectares; oak.	An oak massif in Zaporozh'ye Oblast. Contains trees up to 100 years old.
Veliko-Anadol' Forest; 6,500 hectares; oak.	An artificial forest in Stalino Ob- last created more than 100 years ago.
Trostryanets Forestry Management; 12,000 hectares; oak.	An oak forest on the right bank of the Vorkala River in Sumy Oblast.
Foretsk Forest; 9,400 hectares; larch.	A forest in Moscow Oblast.
Shatilov Forest; 1,000 hectares; oak.	An artificial forest in Orel Oblast established in 1821.
Shipov Forest; 39,400 hectares; oak.	An oak forest in Voronezh Oblast.
Borisoglebsk Massif; 37,300 hectares; oak.	A natural oak forest, a remnant of 16th century forests.
Tula National Forest; 75,100 hectares; oak.	An oak forest, largely planted.
Lenin Forestry Management; 5,500 hectares; ash.	A massif in southern Rostov Oblast.
Sal'sk Forest; 3,000 hectares; oak.	An oak forest in Rostov Oblast, large- ly planted.

- 5 -

CONFIDENTIAL**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

Gordaishehensk Forest;
3,600 hectares; pine.

An artificially created forest
in Rostov Oblast.

Manych Forestry Management;
1,800 hectares; ash.

An artificially created forest
in Rostov Oblast.

Novo-Pokrovsk Forest;
1,700 hectares; ash.

A forest in Krasnodar Kray crea-
ted in 1904.

Beshtaugorsk Forestry Management;
6,300 hectares; ash.

A forest, surrounded on all sides
by steppe, in Stavropol' Kray.

Buzuluk Pine Forest;
111,700 hectares; pine.

Large pine forest created in the
open steppe of Kuybyshev and
Chkalov oblasts.

Pine Forests of Altay and Kazakh-
stan; 1,966,400 hectares; pine.

Pine forests in the Siberian
steppes.

Southern Kirgiz Nut and Fruit Tree
Forest; 281,800 hectares; walnut.

Natural nut and fruit tree forest
in 8 forestry managements in
Dzhalal-Abad Oblast.

Lipov Forest;
8,700 hectares; linden.

Natural forest in Kemerovo Oblast,
a remanant of linden forests in
West Siberia.

From the data shown in the table, the conclusion can be
drawn that designation of forests as valuable forests has only be-
gun, since none have as yet been so designated in most union re-
publics. This important matter is to be basically completed in
1950-1951. (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

- 6 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIALForests of the Urals

The forests of the Urals and the area west of the Urals (Priural'ye) represent 45 percent of all forests in the European USSR.

Coniferous species predominate in the Ural forests. Pine (Pinus) and spruce (Picea) make up 70 percent of Ural resources, fir (Abies), larch (Larix), and cedar (Cedrus) about 7 percent.

Deciduous species, forming the remaining 23 percent, include birch (Betula), aspen (Populus tremula), alder (Alnus), linden (Tilia), maple (Acer), elm (Ulmus), white willow (Salix alba), willow (Salix), and oak (Quercus). (3)

In the USSR, cedar forests are found mainly in the Urals, Siberia, Far East, Kazakhstan, Buryat-Mongolia, and Yakutia.

In Sverdlovsk Oblast, there are 191,000 hectares of forests in which cedar predominates. They are located for the most part (115,600 hectares) in the northwestern part of the oblast in Ivdel'skiy, Serovskiy, Garinskiy, Pelymskiy, Novo-Lyalinskiy, Isovskiy, and Verkhotur'skiy rayons. Exploitation reserves of cedar in Sverdlovsk Oblast total 34,600,000 cubic meters, of which 20,200,000 are concentrated in the seven northwest rayons. (4)

Forests of Moldavia

The Moldavian SSR is one of the most lightly forested republics in the Soviet Union. Its entire forest fund including kolchoz forests totals only 223,000 hectares.

On 1 January 1950, the state forest fund amounted to 206,200 hectares. This figure includes 180,200 hectares covered with forest, 11,600 hectares not covered with forest, and 14,400 hec-

CONFIDENTIAL

- 7 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

tares of unforested land. To the state forest fund figure must be added about 16,000 hectares of kolkhoz forests and 500 hectares of forests under the control of other organizations.

The forests of Moldavia are deciduous, with oak as the main species. According to predominating species, the area covered with forest is divided as follows:

Stands in which oak predominates	- 66 percent
Stands in which ash predominates	- 8 percent
Stands in which white acacia predominates	- 8 percent
Stands in which hornbeam predominates	- 6 percent
Stands in which elm predominates	- 5 percent
Stands in which other species predominate	- 7 percent

Species occurring in Moldavian forests in addition to those mentioned include maple, cherry, poplar, apple, pear, beech, and birch.

The forests of Moldavia are young. Their average age does not exceed 30 years. Stands older than 60 years occupy only 6 percent of the area covered with forests. (5)

Forests of Georgia

The forests of the Georgian SSR are administered by the Ministry of Forestry of the republic and the administrations of forestry of Abkhaz ASSR, Adzhar ASSR, and South Osetian Autonomous Oblast. There are 50 forestry managements in the republic; 37 of these are directly subordinate to the Ministry of Forestry and 13 to the three administrations of forestry, which, in turn, are subordinate to the ministry.

The total forest area in the Georgian SSR equals 3,200,000

CONFIDENTIAL

- 8 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

hectares, of which 2,717,000 hectares are covered with forests.
The state forest fund comprises 2,517,000 hectares, kolkhoz forests aggregate 683,000 hectares.

Distribution according to predominating species on 1,927,400 hectares of the state forest fund covered with forest is as follows:

Coniferous species	406,500 ha	or	21.0 percent
Including: pine	94,600 ha		
Hard-wood deciduous species	1,383,700 ha	or	71.8 percent
Including: beech	more than 1,000,000 ha		
Other deciduous species	137,200 ha	or	7.2 percent

According to age, distribution of the forests on the same area is as follows:

Young stands	276,100 ha
Mature and overmature stands	1,041,000 ha
Stands approaching maturity	312,700 ha
Middle-aged stands	297,600 ha

Between 1926 and 1950, 2,008,000 hectares of the state forest fund had been studied and surveyed. According to plan, study and surveying of the state forest fund is to be completed in 1954. Study and surveying of kolkhoz forests has begun. (5)

Caucasian fir (*Abies nordmanniana*) and spruce (*Picea orientalis*) occupy 11 percent of the area covered with forest in Georgia. According to age, 76 percent of the fir and spruce forests are overmature. (3)

Forests of Kazakhstan

Although the forest fund of Kazakh SSR totals 25.2 million hectares, this republic is only lightly forested. The forests

CONFIDENTIALCONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

are very unevenly distributed over its territory, so that the degree of forestation of the individual oblasts varies between 0.04 and 9 percent.

Kazakh SSR covers an area of 2.7 million square kilometers, stretching 3,000 kilometers from east to west and 1,700 kilometers from north to south. The republic is characterized by a great variety of natural conditions. For example, the average annual temperature of Petropavlovsk is 0.9 degree, of Akmolinsk 1.9 degrees, of Karkaralinsk 1.6 degrees, of Dzhambul 10.3 degree and of Chimkent 11.9 degrees. Thus, the difference between the average annual temperatures of Petropavlovsk in the north and Chimkent in the south equals 11 degrees.

The movement of spring from south to north proceeds at an average rate of about 50 kilometers every 24 hours. In the south, the average diurnal temperature usually rises above zero in early March; in the north, this does not occur before mid-April.

It follows, therefore, that the composition of Kazakh forests is very diversified. Pure birch (*Betula*) forests grow in the north. Mixed stands of pine (*Pinus*) and birch predominate in Akmolinsk and Kokchetav oblasts. Pure pine groves line the right bank of the Irtysh River in Pavlodar and Semipalatinsk oblasts. Taiga composed of fir (*Abies*), larch (*Larix*), and cedar (*Cedrus*) covers the slopes of the Altay Mountains in East Kazakhstan Oblast. The Tyan'-Shan' Mountains are covered with dense spruce (*Picea*) groves. Wild apple, hawthorn (*Crataegus*), plum (*Prunus divaricata*), and walnut (*Juglans regia*) trees grow in the canyons of the Talas and western Tyan'-Shan' mountains in southern Kazakhstan. Poplar (*Populus*) and oleaster (*Elaeagnus*) forests are found in the bottom lands of the Ili, Chu, and Syr-Dar'ya rivers. Black poplar (*Populus*

CONFIDENTIAL

- 10 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

nigra) and willow (Salix) groves grow in the basins of the Irtysh and Ural rivers. Saxaul covers much of the desert zone in the south, particularly the Kzyl-Kum Sands in South Kazakhstan and Kzyl-Orda oblasts.

Distribution according to area occupied by various species is as follows:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Area (ha)</u>	<u>Percent of Entire Forest-covered Area</u>
Saxaul	8,322,100	72.8
Birch	742,700	6.5
Pine	516,700	4.5
Fir	375,100	
Spruce	161,800	
Juniper	174,900	
Larch	142,600	16.2
Aspen	166,700	
Others	301,300	
Brushwood	531,900	

The forested area of Kazakh SSR may be divided into the following zones:

1. Clump forests of northern Kazakhstan. These forests are located on the fields and meadows of kolkhozes and sovkhoses. They consist of stands of birch with a light admixture of aspen. This zone covers the northern part of Kustanay Oblast, North Kazakhstan Oblast, and the northern parts of Pavlodar and Kokchetav oblasts.
2. Mound forests. These forests consist of stands of pine growing on the slopes and tops of mounds. The zone covers large parts of Kokchetav, Akmolinsk, and Karaganda oblasts but also includes Bayan-Aul' Forestry Management in Pavlodar Oblast and

CONFIDENTIAL

- 11 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Karkaralinsk Forestry Management in Karaganda Oblast.

3. Pine forests on the right bank of the Irtysh River in the southern part of Pavlodar and northern part of Semipalatinsk oblasts. They represent a southwestern extension of the Altay Kray pine forests.

4. Altay Mountain forests. These forests cover the portion of East Kazakhstan Oblast lying east of the Irtysh. Coniferous species represented are fir, spruce, larch, and cedar; deciduous species include aspen and birch.

5. Ala-Tau Mountain forests. These forests are located in Taldy-Kurgan and Alma-Ata oblasts. Species represented are Tyan'-Shan' spruce, fir, aspen, and birch.

6. Forests of the western Tyan'-Shan' Mountains. These forests cover the southern part of Dzhambul and eastern part of South Kazakhstan oblasts. Juniper grows in the upper part of the zone, hawthorn and maple (Acer) are found in the central part, and apple, almond, and cherry trees abound in the lower part of the zone.

7. Semidesert forests, consisting mostly of saxaul. They are located on the Kara-Kum, Kzyl-Kum, and Bakanas-Balkhash sands in Kzyl-Orda, South Kazakhstan, Dzhambul, Alma-Ata, and Taldy-Kurgan oblasts. Sand acacia, tamarisk, and calligonum grow in the semidesert forests in addition to saxaul.

Within the enumerated groups, there are intrazonal forests such as those found on the bottom lands of rivers. These have been previously described. (6)

Forests of Kirgizia

Kirgiz SSR is a lightly forested republic. Juniper covers 69 percent of the forest-covered area of the republic; it grows

CONFIDENTIAL

- 12 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

in the Altay and Turkestan mountains and in the central Tyan'-Shan' at an elevation of 1,600-3,350 meters above sea level. Tyan'-Shan' spruce covers 20 percent of the forest-covered area of the republic; it grows mainly in Issyk-Kul' Oblast, the central Tyan'-Shan', and the eastern part of Frunze Oblast. (7)

In Dzhalsal-Abad and Osh oblasts, on the southern slopes of the Chatkal' and Fergana mountain ranges, over an area of hundreds of thousands of hectares, is found a forest consisting of wild walnut (*Juglans regia*), pistacio nut (*Pistacia vera*), apple (*Malus*), plum (*Prunus divaricata*), barberry (*Berberis vulgaris*), almond (*Amygdalus communis*), hawthorn (*Crataegus*), and other trees.

The forest produces thousands of tons of walnuts and apples and hundreds of tons of pistacios and plums. It also serves as a source of valuable lumber.

The forest is 20-50 kilometers wide and 200 kilometers long from east to west. A large portion of it consists of cliffs and bluffs. Pasture land covers more than 100,000 hectares. Kolchoz plowland accounts for another portion. The forest-covered areas consist of nut-tree groves with an admixture of maple (*Acer*), apple, and plum trees. Apple groves mixed with pear and plum trees occupy about 4,000 hectares. Pistacio nut trees cover 10,000 hectares and almond trees grow on 500 hectares. Remaining areas are covered with maple and spruce groves containing an admixture of apple, pear, and other trees. (8)

The nut and fruit-tree forest extends into neighboring Central Asian republics, occupying about 250 hectares in Turkmenia, 150 hectares in Uzbekistan, 6,000 hectares in Kazakhstan, and 28,000 hectares in Tadzhikistan. (7)

CONFIDENTIAL

- 13 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL

50X1-HUM

Forests of Uzbekistan

The area covered with forest in Uzbekistan comprises 7,587,000 hectares and contains 15,712,000 cubic meters of timber. Mountain forests total 526,000 hectares with 7,896,000 cubic meters of timber; river valley and sand forests aggregate 7,061,000 hectares with 7,816,000 cubic meters of timber. Thus, the mountain forests, which comprise 7 percent of the entire forest-covered area, contain about 53 percent of the timber supply of the state forest fund of the Uzbek republic. (7)

SOURCES

1. Lesnoye Khozyaystvo, No 12, December 1950
2. Ibid., No 6, June 1950
3. Ibid., No 2, February 1951
4. Ibid., No 11, November 1950
5. Ibid., No 5, May 1951
6. Ibid., No 6, June 1951
7. Ibid., No 3, March 1951
8. Ibid., No 2, February 1950

- E N D -

CONFIDENTIAL

- 14 -

CONFIDENTIAL